set up a Antarctic Study Centre at Vasco-da-Gama in Goa for which the Government of Goa has handed over the land to the Department of Ocean Development;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(e) what is the present position regarding establishment of the centre and by when it would start function-, ing; and

(d) what would be the main features of the proposed study centre?

THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH NOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRT K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A plot of land of 18 acres has already been acquired in Goa for the Study Centre. The fencing of the land and boundary wall const ruction is going on.

(d) The Centre would provide both scientific and logistic support to the entire Antractic programme. The Centre will have laboratories, workshop, library, museum and an administrative wing. The laboratories will include disciplines of earth sciences, atmospheric sciences, ocean sciences and land ecology and microbiology.

Facilities for employees of Air Force Unit-run centres

3678. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of seats reserved for the wards of the employees of the Air Force Unit-run canteens in locally gun schools;

(b) what is the amount reimbursed to these employees as medical ex-penses during tne last two years, year-wise and can teen-wise,

(c) what are the details of child-rent's park$_s$ provided for their wards and facilities for their engagement in cultural sports and nobby-clubs; and

(d) whether these employees are entitled *to* make purchases from CSD canteens without paying the sales tax; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRO-DUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) In locally run Air Force schools, there are no seats reserved for wards of particular categories of personnel, including the civilian employees of Air Force Unit-run Canteens.

(b) These empoyees are private employees, paid out of the "Non-Public" Funds, and are not entitled to payment of medical expenses out of these Funds.

(c) Children's parks, cultural and sports facilities and hobby centres at Air Force Stations are available to the children of all categories of personnel, including the civilian employees of unit-run canteens.

(d) These employees are entitled to make purchases from CSD canteens. The concession of exemption from Sales Tax is granted by certain States *on* purchases made by Service personnel from CSD canteens. These exemptions are not available to any category of civilian employees.

Reservation for SC/ST emnlorees in the Central Governments undertakings

3679. SHRT PUTTAPAGA RADHA-KRTSHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide reservation in promotions to the employees of SCs and STs; and

(b) if so, whether it applies to the Central Government undertakinss?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTl): (a) and (b) The reservation in promotions has already been provided to SCjSTs in the Public Sector Undertaking as below: —

	S. C.	ST.
(a) through limited departmental competitive examination inGroupB, C&D(Ct. II. Ill & IV).	. 15%	7-I%
(b) by selection from Group B (CI. II) to the lowest rung or category in Group A (CI. I) and in Groups B, C&D(C1 ILII1 &1V).	15%	7-1%
(c) on the basis of seniority subject to fitness in Groups A, B, C&D(Cl. I. 11, Ui &IV) . .	15%	7J%
Subject to the condition thit the element of Direct recruitment if any does not exceeds		66-J%

Special courts to try offences of sati

1680. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(>a) whether Government propose to set up special courts to try the offence of Sati; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up such courts for any other offence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRl H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Government propose to introduce a Bill to prevent commission of sati in the country. One of the provision's of this Bill is the setting up of Special Courts to try offences coming under the proposed Act.

(b) Government set up Special Court whenever need for such courts arises.

सातवीं योजना की समीक्षा

3681. श्री रशीद मसूद : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 27 नवम्बर, 1987 के "इकानामिक टाइम्स" में 'सेवेन्थ प्लान कम्स इन फार शार्प क्रिटिसिज्म" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस मामले की समीक्षा की है ; और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

योजना मंत्री, कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री तथा विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री पी. शिवशंकर) : (क) तथा (ख) समाचार पत्र की यह रिपोर्ट स्पष्टतया भारत अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय केन्द्र के आर्थिक दलद्वारा अर्थव्यवस्था, 1987–88 की मध्यवर्ष पुनरीक्षा के विचार-विमर्श के लिए आयोजित सेमिनार पर आधारित है।

(ग) सातवीं पचवर्षीय योजना के मध्यावधि मूल्यांकन पर विचार-विमर्श चल रहा है।

Offer of joint space research centre with Soviet Union

3682. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted a proposal for a joint space research centre with the Soviet Union; 'and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and in what manner it would be integrated with our indigenous national programme upto the nineties'. '

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYAN): (a) and (b) The Soviet interest in establishing an International Space Centre iri Tndia was announced during the the visit of the General Secretary of the C-ntral Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to India ' during November. 1986.